

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15
SP-02 CPR-01 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SY-05
USSS-00 PA-01 L-03 FBIE-00 HA-05 OIC-02 ICAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4422

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 04704

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, OAU, SP
SUBJECT: SPANISH REQUEST FOR U.S. SUPPORT OF AFRICAN
COUNTRIES

1. AT A FAREWELL LUNCH GIVEN FOR ME BY FOREIGN MINISTER
OREJA TODAY, HE REFERRED TO THE STRENUOUS EFFORTS THE
GOS IS MAKING TO CONVINCE THE AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS NOT
TO PRESS THE CANARIES ISSUE AT THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT.
HE THOUGHT HE WAS MAKING SOME HEADWAY BUT A GOOD DEAL
MORE WORK WAS REQUIRED.

2. FONMIN OREJA SAID THAT HE WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL
IF THE USG MIGHT ALSO SAY A WORD TO SOME OF THE AFRICAN
COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE HAVE CLOSE RELATIONS IN SUPPORT
OF THE SPANISH POSITION. HE NOTED WITH APPRECIATION
OUR PUBLIC STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE QUOTE SPANISHNESS
OF THE CANARIES UNQUOTE. HE BELIEVED THAT ANY ACTION
WHICH THE US MIGHT TAKE WITH THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO
URGE THEM NOT TO PRESS THE CANARIES QUESTION AT KHARTOUM
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IN SPAIN. HE SUGGESTED
THAT IF WE DID AGREE TO UNDERTAKE SOME ACTION, THE BEST
TIME TO DO IT WOULD BE IN JUNE, A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME
BEFORE THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT.

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3. OREJA SAID THAT HE WOULD BE SPENDING A DAY OR TWO
IN NEW YORK LATER THIS MONTH AT THE SPECIAL UNGA AND
HE HOPED HE WOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY ALSO TO RAISE THIS
MATTER WITH THE SECRETARY.

4. FINALLY, OREJA TOLD ME IN CONFIDENCE, THAT DURING

THE RECENT VISIT TO MADRID OF PRESIDENT OF EC COMMISSION JENKINS, HE HAD BEEN SURPRISED BY JENKINS' TOTAL LACK OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CANARIES SITUATION. JENKINS HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT MINORITY PROBLEM THERE. THIS TYPE OF MISINFORMATION AMONGST THE EUROPEANS, SAID OREJA, WAS HARDLY HELPFUL TO THE SPANISH CAUSE. STABLER

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